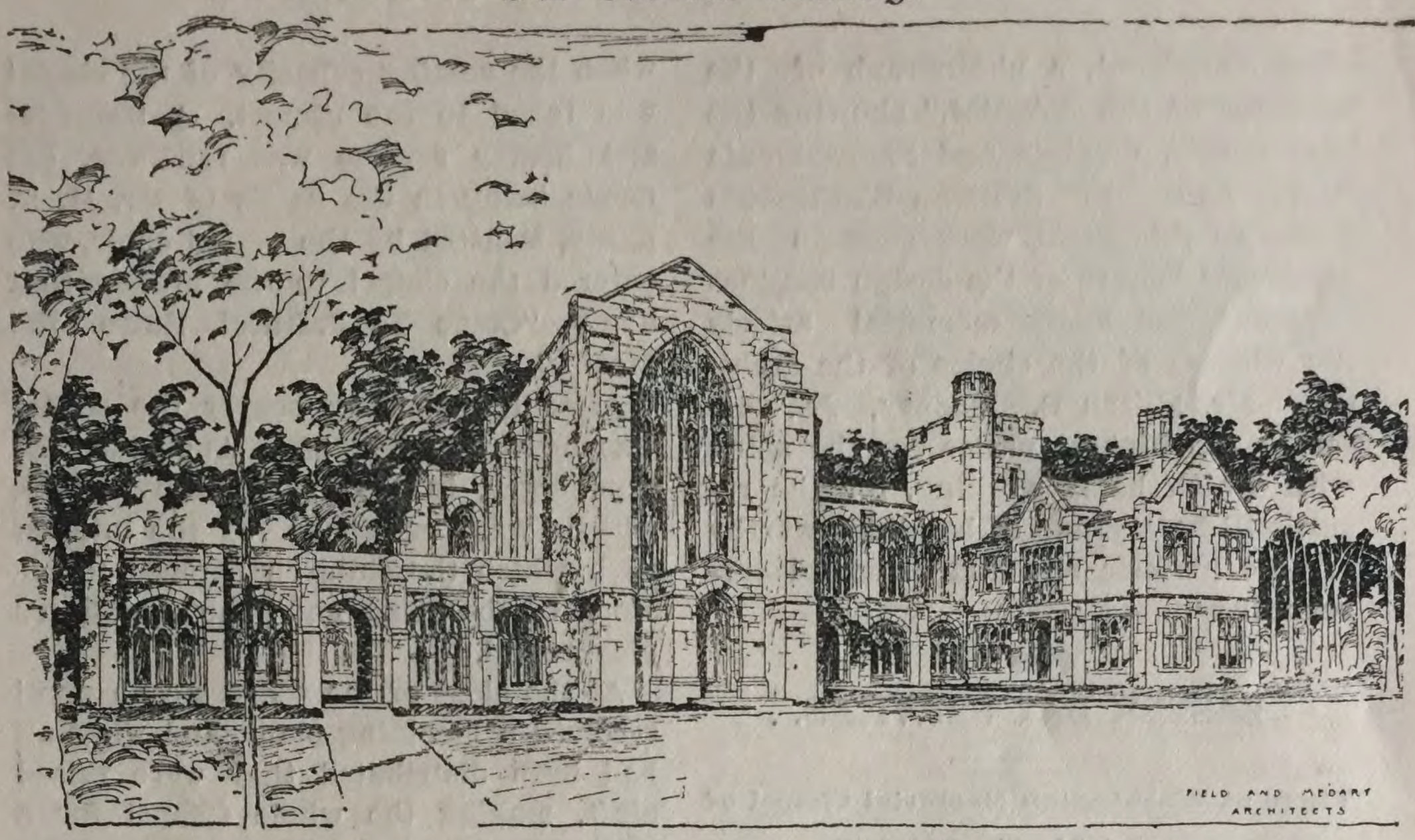
"For God and Country."



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Rectory.

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—Cyrus Townsend Brady.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge,

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.

Miss Emma W. Crawford, Editor. Mrs. Robert Wood, Business Manager

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ART AND ARCHITECTURE.

The T Square Club and Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects gave its annual exhibition this year in the Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia. "The American Architect and Building News" in speaking of this collocation said: "It will be conceded that any architectural exhibition that can hold its own in the centre of such artistic surroundings must be worthy of notice. It does this. More, it emphasizes the high merit of this collection. One feels no sense of contrasts in passing from the galleries of paintings to those devoted to architecture. It is a source of satisfaction to see it demonstrated that an exhibition of the work of the artist architect can so fittingly be shown side by side with that of the artist painter."

We are glad to note that among the illustrations chosen by "The American Architect" to represent the collection three are taken from views of the Washington Memorial Chapel. These are the sketch of the Chapel as it will appear

when completed, a photograph of the "Cloister of the Colonies," showing the New Jersey, Virginia and Pennsylvania Bays, and the Sullivan-Washington font. As this great work goes on the wonderful beauty of the design becomes apparent and every memorial attests the wisdom of the choice of the architect. Mr. Milton B. Medary, Jr., deserves the highest praise for the spirit with which he is working, for the result will be a group of buildings worthy of this historic site and beautiful surroundings.

EASTER DAY SERVICES.

Those at Washington Memorial Chapel of a Notable Character.

The Easter Day services at the Washington Memorial Chapel were of a notable character. The first service was held at 10.30, being the full morning service, sermon and Holy Communion. The Rev. Francis T. H. Finn, vicar, conducted the services, preaching an impressive sermon on the Resurrection and administering the Communion to the largest number at any one time since taking charge of the Chapel.

The music also was in keeping with the festal occasion, being well rendered by the vested choir, under the direction of Miss Delia P. Gibson. As an offertory, Bartlett's "Jesus Christ is Risen To-day" was sung. The rest of the music was from the Church hymnal. The chapel was beautifully decorated with potted plants, Easter lilies and cut flowers and the congregation was a large one, including the members from the Mission at the King-of-Prussia. The offering at this service amounted to seventy-two dollars.

In the afternoon at 3.45, the Sunday School Festival of the combined schools of the Washington Memorial Chapel and the King-of-Prussia Mission was held, when the seating capacity of the chapel was taxed to the utmost. A beautiful and hearty service was rendered, the music being in the hands of Mr. H. E. Kratz, assisted by the vested choir, who entered the chapel to the processional hymn, "Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain."

After the evening prayer the school was addressed by Mr. Augustus W. Bomberger, in his usual happy style, which was evidenced by the interest with which the children listened to his story of the King and the children's playground.

At the close of the address each pupil received a blooming plant, and when all had been distributed they were raised aloft, making the whole Chapel for a moment a mass of color.

The scholars from the King-of-Prussia were participants in this service also, but at seven o'clock had a festival in Stewart Fund Hall, where Mr. Finn has formed a mission school. The hall was crowded to the doors and a most hearty service was held, with Mr. Finn in charge. Again Mr. Bomberger was the speaker and again the flower service was observed. The music was led by Miss Mary Pugh and was enthusiastically rendered.

The spirit of joyous happiness so peculiarly characteristic of the Easter season was the dominant note of all these services and as one worshipper aptly quoted, "it is well for us to be here."—From the Norristown Herald.

The Washington Chapel Guild.

Since the publication of the Chronicle has been undertaken by the Guild of the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge, it seems especially fitting that the Guild should be the first of the Chapel organizations to be discussed in detail.

In September, 1906, seven women, interested in the welfare of the Chapel,

gathered at Mrs. Chas. Wells Walker's and formed themselves into a Guild to work for its advancement. The Guild decided to meet the first Wednesday in each month at two o'clock in the Parish House adjoining the chapel. The Guild has gradually grown until now it numbers fifty, but several of these members live at a great distance and can assist us only with their means and sympathy. The Guild decided that its work should be to help in the running expenses of the chapel. The dues were to be 10 cents per month but it was necessary to adopt other means of revenue. "Rummage Sales," "Sample Sales," "Private Work" and a "Colonial Supper" have been attempted and generously responded to by the public. The enthusiasm of the workers in the Guild cannot be illustrated better than by a very beautiful incident. One of the charter members when in her eighty-first year, made two silk quilts, sewing into them in thousands of stitches her love and devotion to the Chapel. These she sold for $100 for the benefit of the Guild. The Guild in the short time it has been organized, has, from donations and by indefatigable work and untiring energy and enthusiasm, made a sum total of $745. A car of coal was one of the first purchases. Each month a check is sent the treasurer of the Chapel for current expenses; repairs and various expenditures incident to the maintenance of the Chapel have been undertaken by the Guild and in addition to this a beautiful memorial has been placed in the Chapel,—a bronze altar desk—richly carved with Gothic carvings and the ever present Washington coat-of-arms, for the Chapel in every detail bears witness to the fact that it is a "Washington memorial." All Guild members must rejoice that they are helping forward this magnificent work. Americans have been accused of caring little for their historic spots, giving all their homage to the owners and makers of vast fortunes. This chapel in its completion will surely be the strongest, soundest, most silent and most certain denial of all such accusations. Members of the Guild, take heart and courage. Your work may seem toilsome and without result; but nothing in this world is wasted, and never high enthusiasm and devotion to a cause worth while.

The regular monthly meeting of the Guild was held in the Parish House on Wednesday afternoon, May 6th. Owing to the inclement weather the attendance was not large. The usual course of business was followed, a motion being carried to postpone the "Rummage Sale" until Fall. The next meeting of the Guild will be held Tuesday, June 2d, at 2 o'clock in the Parish House. At the close of the business meeting refreshments were served by Mrs. Chas. Todd.

On May 8 the Vestry of All Saints' Church reorganized the Building Committee by electing the following to carry on the work on the Chapel: Rev. W. Herbert Burk, Messrs. T. S. Adle, Charles W. Comfort, David H. Hallman, Nathan M. Hallowell, Leslie Jefferis, Frank Quigg, J. D. Sallade and Mrs. S. S. Zulich.

The Committee will meet at the Chapel on Saturday, May 16, at 3 o'clock. The Vestry authorized the Committee to put in the foundations and floor of the chancel, to build a portion of the Patriots' Hall and to fit up quarters for the sexton in this addition. This is a most important movement, and of it we will give some account in our next issue.

"The glory is not in the task, but in the doing it for Him."—Jean Ingelow.

"Difficulties are stones out of which all God's houses are built."—F. W. Faber.

THE PEWS OF THE PATRIOTS.

THE WILLIAM DEWEES PEW.

On Easter Day we had another of the "Pews of the Patriots" in place, the William Dewees Pew. When these pews were suggested there was no thought of the local interest which they would hold, but of the eight memorials three are those of men associated with the local history of Valley Forge. These are the young soldier martyr, Richard Currie; the veteran, Captain Patrick Anderson; and Colonel William Dewees, Jr.

Few who come to Valley Forge know his name; and yet no man, not even Isaac Potts, was as intimately associated with Valley Forge as was Colonel Dewees. On two occasions Washington speaks of him in his orders as recorded in the orderly books. The second is worth quoting because it shows Washington's character as well as his regard for the property of the forge master: "Complaint having been made by Mr Dewees, proprietor of the Valley Forge, that the Soldiers pull down the Houses, and break up the Fire Bays (forebays), at what is called the New Forge, upon Valley Creek; the Commander-in-Chief strictly forbids all Persons from further damaging the Sd Buildings & works which he hopes will be punctually attended to—especially when they consider the great loss, which Mr. Dewees has already Suffered by the Enemy, & by the great waste which our army has been under the necessity of Committing, upon his wood & other Improvements."

The loss "by the Enemy" of which Washington here speaks, was that caused by the burning of the forge and other buildings by the British army while at Valley Forge from September 18 to 21, 1777. Colonel Dewees has carefully set forth these losses in his application for indemnity, so that today we know exactly what damage was done to his property. We give the document in full, as we believe it has never been published.

Account of Sundry Articles taken & Destroyed by the British Army under the Command of General How & Belonging to Wm. Dewees Jr. at Valley Forge in the Year 1777:

	Vizt.		
One Forge	1000	– . .	– . .
One Sawmill	150	– . .	– . .
Two large Stone Dwelling Houses	750	– . .	– . .
Two Coal Houses & 400 load of Coal	775	– . .	– . .
One large Frame Store & One Stone Ironhouse	250	– . .	– . .
2200 Bushels Wheat & Rye in the Sheaf	550	– . .	– . .
4 Feather Beds & Bedding Curtins &c	100	– . .	– . .
1 Mare & 2 Cows	35	– . .	– . .
44 Sheep & (?) Hoggs	50	– . .	– . .
Salt Beef & Bacon	20	– . .	– . .
27 Bushel Salt	27	– . .	– . .
1 large Silver Tankard 2 Cream Potts	50	– . .	– . .
2 Tongs 8 Tea Spoons 8 Table ditto			
2 large looking Glass's	20	– . .	– . .
1–8 Day Clock	16	– . .	– . .
One Desk 1 Book Case & Case of Drawrs	24	– . .	– . .
1 Dozn leather Bottom Chairs & 1 Doz Winsor	15	– . .	– . .
Sundry Waring Apperal	100	– . .	– . .
One Hodghead Rum	25	– . .	– . .
2 Tunn Barr Iron	60	– . .	– . .
1 Waggon	15	– . .	– . .
Kitchen Furniture	30	– . .	– . .
12 Barrels Tar	9	– . .	– . .
30 Tun Hay 200 Bu. Oats Flax &	100	– . .	– .

The above was Burnt & Destroyed in the presence of Genl. Grant as can be proved if Required.

Wm Dewees Jr.

25th November 1782

Personally Appeared the within named William Dewees Junr before me the Subscriber One of the Justices of Berks County & upon his Solomn Oath on the Holy Evangelis of Almighty God Doth depose & say that the within account as carried out opposite the Several Articles within Mentioned is Just and true according to the Best of his knowledge & that he nos no other Person for him has Received any part of

the said Accot. And further this Deponent
sayeth Not.

Wm Dewees

before me
Jacob Shoemaker.

Willm Dewees
Act
Tredyffren

A study of the list of losses makes it appear that much of the damage done was mere wanton destruction, as in the case of the "Stone Ironhouse." And yet there may have been a reason for this action on the part of the British army. On August 30, 1777, the Board of War sent the following letter to President Wharton: "Sir: There is a large quantity of flour spoiling for the Want of baking. It lies at Valley Forge. I am directed to request of you that you with the Council will be pleased to order Furloughs to be given to six Bakers out of the Militia for the purpose of baking the Flour into hard biscuit. Col. Dewees will receive your order & endeavor to find out the bakers. RICH. PETERS, Sec."

Colonel Dewees then occupied the "Mansion House," now a part of the "Washington Inn." Within the cellar of his home he built the ovens required to bake the bread, and these were used later when the American army made Valley Forge the site of its encampment. The approach of the British army made it necessary to remove the stores to a safer place, and Alexander Hamilton and Light Horse Harry Lee were detailed for this work. Their escape from the troops sent by General Howe to capture the stores is one of the most thrilling events in the history of Valley Forge. The activity of Col. Dewees, the removal of the stores and the escape of the Americans, form a series of events well calculated to irritate the invader, and in the light of them we can read the true meaning of the losses recorded by the owner of Valley Forge.

Even the item of the feather beds has a story tucked under it, and this comes out again in the list of the few items of silver stolen. Mrs. Dewees was as patriotic and as heroic as any who have made Valley Forge the synonym for those qualities. The absence of the "Mansion House" in the list, if we read the story aright, tells of her presence, and is a silent proof of the reliability of the tradition of her defense of her home and its treasures.

Thus the William Dewees Pew will serve to commemorate him whose name it bears and those who were associated with him in the trying days of Valley Forge. The Dewees arms are emblazoned on the base of the pew, which also bears the seal of Pennsylvania. The inscriptions are as follows:

To the Glory of God
and in Memory of
Colonel William Dewees
Born 1740; died 1792
Sheriff of Philadelphia County
Justice of the Peace
Colonel of Militia
Owner of the Valley Forge
during the British and American
Occupation of Valley Forge
1777-1778
This Pew is given by his
Great-grandsons
W. Dewees Wood
Alan Wood, Jr.
Howard Wood
Thomas Roberts
William M. Potts
Francis L. Potts

THE COLORADO PEW.

The Colorado Society, Daughters of the Revolution, has decided to make its pew the Army Pew. It will be given in memory of the Continental Army, and this fact will be set forth in a fitting inscription. The seal of Colorado and the insignia of the Daughters of the Revolution will be carved on the base and properly illuminated. The pew will be in place before Evacuation Day.

Washington Memorial Chapel,
Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK
MINISTER IN CHARGE,
ALL SAINTS RECTORY, NORRISTOWN.

THE REV. FRANCIS T. H. FINN
ASSISTANT,
PORT KENNEDY.

Mr. Frank Quigg, Treasurer,
Port Kennedy, Pa.
George Rumford, Sexton.

Sundays.

2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.

Second Sunday of the month, 10.30 A. M. Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.

Stewart Fund Hall

Sundays.

10.00 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

11.00 A. M. Service and Sermon.

Report of Progress.

The following report from May 1, 1907 to May 1, 1908, was made to the Bishops of the Diocese at the opening of the 124th annual Convention:

WASHINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL.
VALLEY FORGE.

The Rev. W. Herbert Burk, B. D., Minister-in-charge.

The Rev. Francis T. H. Finn, Assistant.

Baptisms—Adult, 12; infants, 7; total, 19; whole number of baptized persons, 180.

Confirmed—Male, 6; female, 15; total, 21.

Communicants added—new, 21; by transfer, 2; present number, 49.

Burials, 5.

Public Services:

Sundays	123
Other days	55
Total	**178**
Holy Communion	19
Children Catechized	80

Sunday School and Bible Classes:

Officers and Teachers	15
Scholars	137
Total	152

Other Parish agencies:

Officers and workers, 109; members, 134; church, 1; sittings, 100; parish building, 1.

Salary of assistant, per annum $1000, of which Convocation contributes $625.

Total number of free sittings—all.

RECEIPTS.

From Convocation	$625.00
Offerings for Parish purposes	589.58
Offerings for purposes outside the Parish	10.00
Donations	6979.18
Sunday School	152.88
Woman's Auxiliary	$5 00
Received for Endowment Fund	421.00
From all other sources	492.16
Total receipts	$9274.80
May 1, 1907, Cash Balance	$930.36
May 1, 1908, Cash Balance	913.07

EXPENDITURES.

Parochial:

Current expenses	$1589.07
Improvements	6974.82
Payment of debts	50.00
Added to Endowment Fund	560.00
All other parochial expenditures	60.62
Total parochial	$9234.51

Diocesan:

Diocesan objects	$5.00
Total Diocesan	5.00

Extra Diocesan:

Missions, Sunday School offering	40.08
Foreign	2.50
Men's Thank Offering	10.00
Total, Extra Diocesan	52.58
Total for all objects	**9292.09**

FINANCIAL CONDITION.

Estimated aggregate value of Property of the Parish, real and personal	$24,000.00
Encumbrances on Church Edifice	none
On other buildings and lands	50.00
Other indebtedness	608.00
Endowment Fund	588.73
In General Fund for Endowment	161.00
Total Endowment	749.73

Other Information:

The past year has been the most successful in the history of the Mission We doubled the number of communicants, doubled the endowment, and increased our parochial activities. The memorials given exceed in number and value those of any previous year, and more are promised. Our great need is money with which to complete the walls.

The Rt. Rev. Robert A. Gibson, D. D., Bishop of Virginia, dedicated the "Virginia Bay" in the "Cloister of the Colonies" on June 19. This Bay was given by Mr. George C. Thomas as a tribute to the soldiers of Virginia, the great Virginian under whom they served, and to the Virginia Churchmen who have given themselves and their means for missions. At the same time Bishop Gibson dedicated the font given by Mr. and Mrs. William M. Sullivan in memory of their son, Ralph. The font commemorates the Baptism of Washington. The "Maryland Bay," the gift of Mr. James E. Mitchell, is built and will be dedicated on June 19.

Five more of the "Pews of the Patriots" have been given, each with an endowment of $100. Those commemorated are Captain Patrick Anderson Colonel Jacob Kingsbury and John Kingsbury, privateer; Colonel William Dewees; Christopher Pechin and Christiana Bright, his wife; and Richard Currie.

THE PATRIOTS' HALL.

THE FOUNDERS.

Since our statement was made about the "Founders' Certificates" the following have been enrolled in the "Book of the Founders of the Patriots' Hall, Valley Forge":

In memoriam: Abbie J. R. Burk	$5 00
Miss Eleanor H. Stroud, Norristown	1 00
Miss M. C. Williams, Norristown	1 00
David Richardson Beaver, M. D., Conshohocken	1 00
Mary Patterson Beaver (Mrs. D. R. Beaver), Conshohocken	1 00
Mrs. Walter Beall	1 00
"Cash," Embreeville	1 00
Mrs. William Elder Bailey, Harrisburg	1 00
Mrs. Gertrude B. Biddle, Carlisle	1 00
Mrs. Edward A. Boyne, Bradford	1 00
Miss Caroline Francis Hebenthal, Cape May, N. J.	1 00
Total	$15 00

SENATOR KNOX

The Republicans of Pennsylvania have endorsed the Hon. Philander C. Knox as Pennsylvania's candidate for the Presidency. His neighbors and friends at Valley Forge are among his most cordial well wishers, and they hope to see him President of the United States. His sterling character, his unquestioned integrity, and his unwavering devotion to the best interests of his country, are worthy of the highest honor in the gift of the Nation and the Nation would be honored in having such a President.

The Good Friday service at the Chapel was not as well attended as it sho ld have been. Good Friday should ce.. tainly be a Church day for Christians on account of its meaning for all Christendom.

Pulpit, Lectern and Choir Perclose.

MEMORIAL OF MR. ALAN WOOD, JR.

The contract has been given for one of the most beautiful memorial groups that can be placed in the Washington Memorial Chapel. It includes an octagon pulpit, a lectern and choir perclose. The pulpit will correspond to the Sullivan-Washington font, which has been so greatly admired, and will have a bronze sermon desk. In the lectern the lines of the Gothic tracery will be carried out, and at its two corners will be carved eagles' heads, emblematic of the Gospel and the Nation. The whole group will be made of selected Indiana limestone. The perclose will have deeply cut panels and its posts will bear the Washington arms and will be surmounted by richly carved pinnacles.

The pulpit will commemorate George Washington, Warden of Truro Parish, Virginia, and the lectern George Washington Lay Reader in the French and Indian War, while the whole group will be in memory of Alan Wood, Jr., and is the gift of his widow, Mrs. Mary H Wood. It is most interesting to have this announcement appear in the same issue of the "Chronicle" in which is given the account of the Dewees Pew on which the name of Alan Wood, Jr., appears as the great grandson of William Dewees, the ironmaster.

The lilies and potted plants for the Easter decorations were furnished by the Guild and Sunday school and the cut flowers on the altar were very kindly sent by Mrs. J. R. Tindle, of Valley Forge. The flowers which remained after the distribution to the Sunday School scholars were given to persons who were ill and unable to enjoy the Easter celebration.

Miss Margaret Bomberger, of Norristown, sang a solo at the offertory on the second Sunday after Easter.

The Woman's Auxiliary to the Convocation of Norristown.

The Woman's Auxiliary to the Convocation of Norristown held a most successful annual meeting at St. Paul's Church, Ogontz, on Tuesday, April 28. The same officers were re-elected for the following year: Miss Frances Dern, First Vice-President; Mrs. Chas. Walters, secretary; Miss Miller, treasurer. Mrs. H. Irwin was newly elected second vice-president. The Auxiliary had about one hundred dollars in the treasury, a very good showing for the first year, since the dues are only 25 cents yearly. Of this twenty-five dollars were pledged to the Lansdale mission for its rectory debt, fifty dollars for the building fund of the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge, (and the Chapel appreciated most heartily this generosity); ten dollars for the Bethayres Mission for its most urgent needs.

At the conclusion of the business meeting the members listened to a most charming address on "Prayer," given by Mrs. Gryce, of Philadelphia. She told of a prayer league formed not quite two years ago. which she hoped might number fifty and now numbers five hundred. Prayer, as the life of the soul, was the theme of her talk. How much more power and strength we would have if, in these very complex and full lives of ours, some time should be set apart each day for absolutely quiet thought and intercession.

The Dean of the Convocation visited the Chapel on Easter Even and preached a most able sermon on "Immortality," a subject which must needs interest every thinking being.

The Sunday School is very glad indeed to welcome again among its teachers Mr. Augustus W. Bomberger and Mr. Edward T. Boggs.